GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

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THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

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for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

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FRENCH WAR DOG: A COURSER WHOSE WINGED FEET SPURN THE EARTH

This is a remarkable "flight" picture of one of the liaison couriers used by the French when the telephone system in the front-line trenches was made ineffective by enemy artillery. (See Bulletin No. 2.)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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Stockholm: Godmother of New Motion Picture City

A MOTION picture city, like that about to be built just outside Stockholm, seems an anachronism at first thought, like planting a Universal City by the gates of Jerusalem or against the walls of Rome.

The Swedish capital is on the site of the ancient stronghold of the Vikings, yet in many respects it is the most modern among European cities. Indeed Stockholm has been charged with vandalism for its sacrifice of mediaeval landmarks in its rigorous march of progress.

Fifteen years ago Stockholm had more telephone subscribers than Paris or London. And the population of Stockholm was then about that of Washington, D. C.

In view of Stockholm's industrial activity—iron foundries, ship building plants, sugar, tobacco, cotton, leather, soap, furniture, and food products factories—it is not surprising that the city should reach out for new industries like that of motion picture production.

Not a City of "Stay-at-Homes"

As a patron, as well as a maker of the motion picture, Stockholm has peculiar qualifications. Stockholm has a "night life" that rivals that of Paris in gaiety—employing the term in no opprobrious sense—but with this distinction; in Paris the visitors flock to places of amusement, in Stockholm it is the home folk who fare forth of an evening. Not alone the blades and belles, but the staid elder folk seek the cafes, the concert halls, and the numerous theaters.

When the "movie" invaded Stockholm one suspects its rivals for patronage were not the candy stores or the dance halls. Instead the cinema had to compete with the flower shops, of which Stockholm has more than any other city of its size, and the concerts. A Stockholm shop girl's dissipation is not sweetmeats, but flowers; the beaux go armed with bouquets and not with boxes of candy.

To the American who has done his traveling in Europe with the admirable aid of the magic picture, scenes from London, Paris, and Vienna flash more readily to mind than any of Stockholm. Yet Stockholm, though intensely modern, is extremely picturesque. Some call it the Venice of the North, an apt enough comparison if you will but reconstruct your Venice in a setting of rocky islands and crag-like peninsulas jutting among the fiords of the Mälar Lake where it empties into an estuary of the Baltic.

Vikings Built a Fortress There

Vikings built a fortress on the island commanding an entrance to their inland sea. The fortress later became a palace. Then came Berger Jarl, in the mid-thirteenth century, and founded Sweden's overseas empire by an expedition to Finland. To him also is generally accredited the foundation of Stockholm.

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THE PHYSICAL MAP OF EUROPE

Here are shown the mountain systems and the river valleys which have determined the course of migrating and invading peoples. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

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The "Dogs of War"

HEROIC deeds of the Red Cross dogs have been widely celebrated, and justly so. But not only did the dog figure gloriously as a messenger of mercy in the war, but did his bit nobly in many other ways. War time adventures of dogs are described in the National Geographic Society's "A Book of Dogs," as follows:

"It is said that there were about ten thousand dogs employed at the battle front at the time of the signing of the armistice. They ranged from Alaskan malamute to St. Bernard and from Scotch collie to fox terrier. Many of them were placed on the regimental rosters like soldiers. In the trenches they shared all the perils and hardships of the soldiers themselves, and drew their turns in the rest camps in the same fashion. But they were always ready to go back, and it is not recorded that a single one of them ever failed when it came to going 'over the top.'

"Mounting guard at a listening post for long hours at a stretch, ignoring danger with all the stolidness of a stoic, yet alert every moment, the dogs played an heroic role. Full many a time it was the keen ear of a collie that first caught the sound of the approaching raiding party. And did he bark? How natural it would have been for him to do so! But no, a bark or a growl might have told the raiders they were discovered, and thus have prevented the animal's own forces from giving the foe a counter-surprise. So he wagged his tail nervously—a canine adaptation of the wig-wag system which his master interpreted and acted upon, to the discomfiture of the enemy.

Dogs' Sense of Smell Saved Whole Companies

"Often whole companies were saved because the dog could reach farther into the distance with his senses than could the soldiers themselves.

"It was found that many dogs would do patrol and scout duty with any detachment. But there was another type of dog worker needed in the trenches—the liaison dog, trained to seek his master whenever turned loose. Amid exploding shells, through veritable fields of fire, he would crawl and creep, with only one thought—to reach his master. Nor would he stop until the object of his search was attained. Many a message of prime importance he thus bore from one part of the field to another, and nought but death or overcoming wound could turn him aside.

"But the work of the dogs of war was not limited to the front. Where the motor lorry was helpless, where the horse stood powerless to aid, where man himself found conditions which even the iron muscle and the indomitable will that is born of the fine frenzy of patriotism could not conquer, here came the sled dog to the rescue.

Alaska and Labrador Contributed Their Dog Quotas

"Alaska and Labrador contributed the motive power for the sleds that kept the men in their mountain-pinnacle trenches in the high Alps, provisioined and

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The island portion of the modern city, Staden (city), bears little trace of its history. Originally the city was wood built and fire swept it time and again. It suffered, too, from raids of Danish kings. Once, in 1520, Christian II, of Denmark, to make sure of his hold on Swedish territory, assembled the leading nobles on the highest point of the island and decapitated them. Thus the spot came to be known as the "Stockholm Blood Bath."

Today Staden is connected with other parts of the city by bridges, one of which, the Norrbro, or North Bridge, is Stockholm's Brooklyn bridge, in respect to traffic, and its London bridge, as an object of sentiment.

A Swedish "Bridge at Midnight"

Sweden's Longfellow wrote of this bridge:

"Tower, heroes' statues, palace, muses' fane
Stand nobly mirrored in the stream below;
While, beneath marble, Sweden's glory sleeps
On Riddarholmen bathed in evening glow."

Had he stood at midnight, or at any other hour, in olden times, he would not have written of a clock striking the hour, but of an old watchman who came forth on the tower of St. James church in the square below to chant:

"The hour is twelve,
God's mighty hand
Preserve our town
From fire and brand,
The hour is twelve."

On the same square is the palace upon the site of the old royal residence which, only 200 years ago, burned to the ground and nearly consumed the body of Charles XI, lying in state at the time, and the future King Charles XII, then a 15-year-old boy.

The Pittsburg and Boston of Sweden

Stockholm has no university, but academics abound, including that modelled after the French Academy, and another devoted to science. For Stockholm is both the Pittsburg and Boston of Sweden. Its newspapers carry extensive reviews of current French, German and English books; yet comparatively few names of Swedish scientists, artists and writers, such as Linnaeus, Zorn and Ellen Key, are popularly known in other lands.

Ice breakers keep open the Stockholm harbor in winter, for it is within a few miles of being as far north as Cape Farewell, Greenland. The city is 330 miles northeast of Copenhagen, and a like distance due north of Danzig.

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Strassburg: The Capital of Alsace

STRASSBURG, capital of Alsace, was the scene of an historic celebration recently when Clemenceau, "Savior of France," visited the restored province. This city is famed for its cathedral and pate de foie gras, and prized for its commercial and military importance.

Emperor Maximilian I called it the bulwark of the Holy Roman Empire and Louis XIV, when France came into possession of it in 1681, had Vauban, his prolific fort builder, fortify it. When the Germans appropriated it after the Franco-Prussian war they constructed elaborate fortifications, including 15 outer forts, made it headquarters for an army corps, and placed there a garrison of 16,000 troops.

Only 30 miles east of the late French frontier, Strassburg is 88 miles north of Basel, by rail, at the confluence of the Ill and Breusch rivers, only two miles from the Rhine. Before the war it was the trade junction of converging routes from France, Switzerland and Germany. Canal connections of the Rhine with the Marne and the Rhone increased its importance, and nearly 300 acres of wharves and quays on the Rhine facilitated its commerce.

Cathedral's Building Extended Over 400 Years

Its Cathedral, whose building extended over four centuries, typifies the diverse influences to which the city has been subjected. The facade, especially, presents a singularly happy union of the northern France and German styles of cathedral architecture.

A large astronomical clock in the transept is an object of wonder to the beholder. An angel strikes a bell for quarter hours; a genius reverses his hour glass every hour; a symbolic deity steps out of his niche each day—Apollo on Sunday, Diana on Monday, and so on; daily at noon the Twelve Apostles march around the figure of the Savior, while in the morning a cock on the highest pinnacle stretches his neck, flaps his wings and crows.

Strassburg beverages were known before Columbus sailed westward, and at the Kammerzell'sche Haus, which affords an excellent example of half-timber architecture, one might obtain Alsatian refreshment in the atmosphere of the middle ages.

Streets of the parts of the city left undamaged by the seven weeks' siege of German troops in 1871 are crooked and tortuous. The newer section is modern and impressive, for the conquerors, in efforts to Germanize the region, provided buildings as numerous and costly as those to be found anywhere in Germany save in Berlin and a few other cities. A valued instrument in the fruitless "Kultural" drive on native Alsatians was the rejuvenation of the University of Strassburg which had more than 2,000 students before the war, and a library of a million volumes.

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munitioned in the dead of winter. In four days, after a very heavy snowfall, one kennel of 150 dogs moved more than fifty tons of food and other supplies from the valley below to the front line on the mountain above.

"In the Vosges Mountains more than a thousand Alaskan sled dogs helped to hold the Hun during the last year of the war."

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The Racial Families of Europe

IN a communication to the National Geographic Society Dr. Edwin A. Grosvenor gives a general survey of the chief groups of Europe, as follows:

"The number of distinct human groups or races is variously estimated from the three: Japhetic, Semitic and Hamitic of the Bible, or the three, Caucasian, Mongol, and Negro, of Cuvier; to the eleven of Pickering and the sixteen of Desmoulins. The estimate in 1781 by Dr. Blumenbach, the father of anthropology, has best withstood the attacks of time. He finds five races, Caucasian, Mongolian, Ethiopian, American and Malay.

"Two main divisions are at once recognized among the Caucasians, designated as the Indo-European or Japhetic and the Syro-Arab or Semitic. Indo-European indicates the belief that Europeans came from the basin of the Indus. Syro-Arab means, originating in Syria and Arabia.

Eight Branches of Indo-European Division

"The Indo-European includes eight branches or groups. These are: in Asia, the Aryas or Hindus of India, the Persians and the Armenians, the last two being often termed Iranians from the great plateau of Iran where they had their origin; in Europe, the Greeks, Latins, Celts, Teutons, or Germans, and Slavs.

"Common usage treats these groups as races, so properly we speak of the Celtic race or the Slavic race or of the races of Europe. Because of the intimate relations of the Greeks and Latins and the cognate nearness of their languages, the two are denoted as of the Greco-Latin race. German and Teuton are interchangeable, being synonymous terms.

"The great majority of the peoples who have invaded Europe and whose descendants are now settled there belong to the Indo-European family. In addition, about 30,000,000 persons, or one-fifteenth of the inhabitants of Europe, are Finno-Ugrians and Turks, members of the Ural-Altaic branch of the Mongolian family. All the rest, except the Jews, Maltese, and Saracens (Syro-Arab), and possibly except the Basques, are of Indo-European stock.

"Ural-Altaian comprehends peoples, found between the Altai and Ural mountains. Finno-Ugrian is specific of a western group of Ural-Altaians. The term is derived from Finn and Ugra, the region on both sides of the Urals.

Migration Routes Traced to Geography

"The various routes of migration into Europe, the later wanderings of the immigrants, and their constant relocations, may be directly traced to geographic causes, of which the mountain system, the rivers and plains had a determinative part. The backbone and dominant factor of the continent is the Alps.

"In the Alps are the fountain heads of the Rhone, Rhine, and Po, and in the outspurs rise the Loire, Seine, Meuse, Elbe, Oder, Vistula, and Danube.

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Once Member of League of Cities

In the middle ages, after revolting against ecclesiastical rule, Strassburg became a free, independent and highly prosperous city. It allied itself with the League of Swabian Towns, an affiliation having no connection with, and, in some respects, forming an interesting contrast to the Hanseatic League. For, while the primary purpose of the Swabian group was to protect trade and property, to prevent over-taxation and to avoid other oppressions, some writers profess to find in their program a germ of the later movement in western Europe against aristocracy and remnants of feudal privilege.

General Kleber, one of the ablest and most modest French commanders of the revolutionary period, was born in Strassburg; Goethe attended the University there; Johann Mentel, thought to have been either a pupil or an assistant of Gutenberg, set up a printing press there, and Johann Tauler, the Phillips Brooks of his time, preached and ministered throughout the appalling weeks when the Black Death half depopulated the city.

Accused of Starting Pestilence

Accused of starting the pestilence by poisoning wells, more than 2,000 Jews were put to death in Strassburg alone, adding to the horrors of that tragic time. Men's thoughts turned to Divine succor, and there grew up the mystical and mysterious "Friends of God" among whom Tauler was a leader, and a Strassburg banker was a convert who wrote a treatise on meditative steps toward Heaven.

Strassburg's population in 1910 was a little more than that of Toledo, Ohio, and its pre-war industries included tanning, printing, brewing, making of steel goods, paper and furniture, while the poorer classes engaged in raising geese from the livers of which they derived the paste which often is known as "Strassburg pate."

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New Guinea: Which Was "Divided Three Ways"

NEW GUINEA is one of the post-war colonial problems because, before 1914, it was divided among England, Holland, and Germany, who now forfeits her rights there. Conditions in this largest island of the world, if Australia be ranked as a continent, were described in a communication from Thomas Barbour to the National Geographic Society as follows:

"New Guinea, the last great area remaining in the tropics which is still almost completely unknown, has a peculiar charm for the naturalist.

"Lying between the Equator and Queensland, Australia, its length is about 1,490 miles and its maximum breadth is 430 miles. Its area is greater than that of Borneo, being about 300,000 square miles. Politically it is divided into three parts.

"The lower coasts bordering Torres Straits form British Papua, as it is now called. The eastern coast as far as 140 degrees 47 minutes east longitude, with a considerable hinterland, made up what was Kaiser Wilhelm's land, or German New Guinea. In both of these districts, there are a considerable number of white settlements and mission stations, and mining and copra farming are carried on. The great western region of Papua is Dutch and it is of this region that we are dealing especially.

Native Found in Primitive Simplicity

"It is this very absence of white folk which gives this land an added interest, for here the native may be seen in his primitive simplicity. With such a bewildering variety of human types among the Papuan tribes, each speaking its own language, the ethnologist has a great field, one which is certainly unexcelled.

"In coming to Papua from Malasia it is the sudden contrast in the people which makes the most startling impression on one's mind. The Malay, grave, reserved, and dignified, is as unlike his New Guinean neighbor as a Chinaman is unlike a European. These islanders are a happy, boisterous lot until some little thing offends them, when they at once become sullen and treacherous; but as we had no occasion to cross them, we got along admirably.

"The pure Papuan is very dark brown, usually a well-built, thick-set man of medium height. Occasionally individuals are seen who are slight, short, and who have strongly marked Negritos characteristics. These probably represent survivals of the very earliest human inhabitants of the region, as were the Negritos in the Philippines. Out on the Pacific coast toward German territory the human type is markedly different. Here in varying degrees we meet people who have characteristics of other island groups to the eastward, for there probably has been accidental colonization along this shore.

Each Vilage Has Customs All Its Own

"From Wiak it is a short journey to Jobi Island, another of the group which lies in the mouth of Geelvink Bay. The people here vary little in

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These rivers have each limited or determined the wanderings of peoples, the march of armies, and the boundaries of States. The Danube was a natural and inevitable westward roadway of pastoral peoples from Asia.

"A line drawn from the mouth of the Pruth to the mouth of the Niemen, and thence prolonged through the Baltic and Gulf of Bothnia to the sources of the Torne Elf in Scandinavia, gives an approximation of real or historic Europe's eastern frontier and extent west of that line and north of the Alpine system, an enormous plain, broken only by the watersheds of its rivers, extends to the North Sea.

The Europe of Christ's Time

"When the Christian era began, all that plain was covered by forests except the marshlands in the east. That plain, as well as Scandinavia, peopled almost wholly by Teutons, was sometimes called Germania. East of that line was another still more enormous plain, Sarmatia, the home of the Slavs, a race almost unknown. The Alps, northern Italy, a part of Spain, France, and the British Islands were inhabited by Celts. The centers of the Greco-Latins were Greece and Italy.

"Thus, at the time of Christ the Alps are the signpost of Europe, roughly pointing out where the races are to be found: north of the Alps, the Teutons; south of the Alps, the Greco-Latins; in the Alps and to the west, the Celts; far east of the Alps, little affected by them, and therefore little influenced by Europe and formerly of as little influence in it, the Slavs and the Finno-Ugrians."

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appearance from the other Papuans of the region, but their manners and customs differ much from village to village. Indeed, while this island is hardly larger than Long Island, New York,—eleven mutually unintelligible languages are spoken on it. Many feuds exist, and when our ship came to anchor in Pom Bay canoes, attracted by the smoke, had come from neighboring harbors but did not spend the night even close to the ship, because their occupants were afraid of the people of Pom.

"The raiding canoes of Pom were enormous affairs, with bows decorated with fretwork carving, in elaborate designs, and with wooden heads which were made to look like real ones, by having enormous mops made of cassowary feathers stuck to them."

GYPSIES: THE NOMADS OF EVERY LAND

Whence they come and whither they go is a puzzle not only to the dweller in city or country whom they pass, but to the student of races as well. Their origin is lost in the mists of legend and tradition. They are to be found in many countries of Europe, chiefly in the Balkans, in Hungary, and in Spain. He who is fascinated by the romantic subject of the Gypsies finds in the pages of George Borrow's "Lavengro" and "Romany Rye" accounts of these wanderers which are of absorbing interest. The man in the photograph is holding the silver-crowned cane which he uses when on the road. His coat is adorned with immense silver buttons. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

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